

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

MUHLENBERG ON PLANTS COLLECTED IN THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA REGION ABOUT 1809.

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In the year 1809 no list of plants of the District of Columbia region had yet been published, nor, so far as we know, had any society been organized for the study of plants. Data on plant collections of that period are of considerable value, therefore, and it is of interest to know that at least three amateurs were collecting here at that day and sending their plants to the leading American botanist of the time, Dr. Henry Muhlenberg.¹

These facts appear from a letter² of Muhlenberg's addressed to "Dr. John Ott, at Georgetown, Columbia D.," the botanical matter in which is as follows:

Lancaster, Sept. 25, 1809.

Dear Sir:

I am ever so much obliged to you for this magnificent package of plants and also to the other gentlemen who have contributed to it. I was very glad indeed, and all my wishes have been satisfied. I was short of some plants which Clayton described in his excellent *Flora Virginica*. Some of them I found in the present collection, and if you continue in this way I am in hopes to have them all in the end. The section around Columbia is particularly rich in rare plants. I regret that the plants have not been provided with numbers. By enumerating them the correspondence regarding the same is very much facilitated. The nomenclature is clearer and the fixing of new and unknown plants will be more intelligible. I have been looking them all over, but only superficially. When I put them into my herbarium I shall make a thorough examination of the same. I shall specify below the nomenclature just the same way as I have put it into my diary according to my first examination. Such as are new to me and of which I am not sure I have marked with a cross.³ Of these I would like

¹This is the form of his name on the title page of his pioneer *Catalogus Plantarum Americae Septentrionalis*, 1813, and probably should be adopted as the well considered preference of his mature years rather than the baptismal name of Gotthilf Heinrich Ernst given in encyclopedias and the like.

²The body of this letter is in German script which was translated for me, very obligingly, by Dr. Carlo Zeimet of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology. The letter, in my possession, was purchased through a book-dealer, from an autograph collection marketed in Philadelphia.

³Asterisks have been substituted.

to have more specimens and, if possible, seeds. In case they are very interesting to me I marked them "Nb." If I could have these in order to plant them in my garden and examine them alive, I should be very much pleased. Kindly excuse my imposition upon you in this regard.

[Then follows the list of plants for which I append both Muhlenberg's names (together with the symbols he mentions) and modern equivalents. With one exception the latter agree with those in Britton and Brown, Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern United States, etc., Second Ed. 1913.]

Muhlenberg's Name.	Modern Equivalent.
*1. <i>Heliotropium europaeum</i> Nb	Same
*2. <i>Hyoseris maior</i> Nb	<i>Cynthia dandelion</i>
3. <i>Bupthalmum helianthoides</i>	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>
4. <i>Eupatorium</i> Nb	Same
*5. <i>Aster</i>	"
*6. <i>Nartheceum pubens</i>	<i>Triantha racemosa</i>
*7. <i>Melanthium racemosum</i>	" "
8. <i>Antirrhinum linaria</i>	<i>Linaria linaria</i>
*9. <i>Verbascum</i>	Same
10. <i>Saxifraga nivalis</i>	Should be <i>Mieranthes virginensis</i> no doubt.
11. <i>Stellaria pubera</i>	<i>Alsine pubera</i>
b. <i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	<i>Xanthoxalis corniculata</i>
12. <i>Arabis canadensis</i>	Same
b. <i>Mentha viridis</i> . A var.?	<i>Mentha spicata</i>
13. <i>Ranunculus flamula</i>	<i>Ranunculus reptans</i>
*14. <i>Ruellia</i>	Same
15. <i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> . A var.?	<i>Kneiffia fruticosa</i>
16. <i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Same
17. <i>Sium angustifolium</i>	<i>Berula erecta</i>
18. <i>Evonymus atropurpureus</i>	<i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i>
19. <i>Prinus verticillatus</i>	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
20. <i>Vaccinium disomorphum</i>	<i>Vaccinium atrococcum</i>
21. <i>Smyrnnium integerrimum</i>	<i>Taenidia integerrima</i>
22. <i>Thaspia trifoliata</i>	<i>Thaspium trifoliatum</i>
23. <i>Cicuta maculata</i>	Same
24. <i>Convolvulus spithamaeus</i>	Same
b. " <i>panduratus</i>	<i>Ipomoea pandurata</i>
25. <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Same
26. <i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	"
27. <i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	"
b. " <i>corymbosus</i> Nb.	Name for an intermediate form not now recognized.
*28. <i>Verbascum</i> like 9	Same
29. <i>Phlox pilosa</i>	Same
*b. " <i>glaberrima</i>	"
30. " <i>subulata</i>	"

31. <i>Phlox maculata</i>	Same
*b. " <i>pilosa?</i>	"
*c. " <i>glaberrima</i> like 29	"
32. <i>Asclepias obtusifolia</i>	<i>Asclepias amplexicaulis</i>
b. " <i>cordata</i>	" <i>rubra</i>
33. <i>Evonymus atropurpureus</i>	<i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i>
34. <i>Anchusa villosa</i>	Possibly <i>Lithospermum canescens</i>
35. <i>Cynoglossum offic.</i> like 25	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
36. <i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	<i>Steironema ciliatum</i>
37. " <i>angustifolia</i>	" <i>lanceolatum</i>
38. <i>Linum virginianum</i>	<i>Cathartolinum virginianum</i>
39. <i>Heuchera</i>	Same
40. <i>Lysimachia hirsuta</i>	<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>
41. <i>Bignonia sempervirens</i>	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>
42. <i>Prinus verticillatus</i>	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>
43. <i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	Same
44. <i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	"
45. <i>Lysimachia stricta</i>	<i>Lysimachia terrestris</i>
*46. <i>Rhamus</i> Nb.	Same
47. <i>Physalis lanceolata</i> m.	<i>Physalis</i> sp.
b. " <i>viscosa</i> Mich.	<i>Physalis heterophylla</i>
c. <i>Solanum carolinianum</i>	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>
48. <i>Pentstemon laevigat.</i>	<i>Pentstemon pentstemon</i>
49. <i>Scutellaria ovalifolia</i>	<i>Scutellaria pilosa</i>
50. " <i>hyssopifolia</i>	" <i>integrifolia</i>
51. <i>Mimulus alatus</i>	Same
52. <i>Stachys aspera</i>	"
*53. <i>Gratiola pilosa</i>	<i>Sophranthe pilosa</i>
54. <i>Lycopus virginicus</i>	Same
55. <i>Scutellaria hyss.</i> like 50	<i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i>
56. <i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Same
57. <i>Gentiana ochroleuca</i>	<i>Dasystephana villosa</i>
58. <i>Claytonia virgin.</i>	<i>Claytonia virginica</i>
59. <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Same
60. <i>Itea virginica</i>	"
61. <i>Lonicera symphoricarpus</i>	<i>Symphoricarpus symphoricarpus</i>
62. <i>Thesium umbellatum</i>	<i>Comandra umbellata</i>
b. <i>Gentiana saponaria</i>	<i>Dasystephana saponaria</i>
63. <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Same
64. <i>Sanicula marilandica</i>	"
65. <i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	<i>Tithymalopsis corollata</i>
66. <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Same
67. <i>Anemone thalictroides</i>	<i>Syndesmon thalictroides</i>
b. " <i>quinquefolia</i>	Same
68. <i>Geranium maculatum</i>	"
69. <i>Panax trifoliatum</i>	<i>Panax trifolium</i>
70. <i>Mitchella repens</i>	Same
b. <i>Asarum canadense</i>	"

71. <i>Vaccinium resinosum</i>	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>
72. <i>Cuphea viscosa</i>	<i>Parsonsia petiolata</i>
73. <i>Polygala seneca</i>	<i>Polygala senega</i>
b. " <i>incarnata</i>	Same
c. " <i>sanguinea</i>	<i>Polygala viridescens</i>
d. <i>Galium pilosum</i>	Same
74. <i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>	<i>Polycodium stamineum</i>
b. " <i>frondosum</i>	<i>Gaylussacia frondosa</i>
c. " <i>virgatum</i>	Same
75. <i>Rhexia virginica</i>	"
b. <i>Stilosanthes elatior</i>	<i>Stylosanthes biflora</i>
76. <i>Glycine monoica</i>	<i>Falcata comosa</i>
b. " <i>apios</i>	<i>Apios apios</i>
77. <i>Vicia caroliniana</i>	Same
b. <i>Galega virginica</i>	<i>Cracca virginiana</i>
c. <i>Hedysarum repens</i>	<i>Lespedeza repens</i>
d. " <i>divergens</i>	?
78. <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Same
79. <i>Kuhnia critonia</i>	<i>Kuhnia cupatorioides</i>
80. <i>Echium vulgare</i>	Same
81. <i>Dodecatheon</i>	"
*82. <i>Aster</i>	"
*83. " "	"
84. <i>Erigeron heterophyllum</i>	<i>Erigeron annuus</i>
85. " <i>bellidifolium</i>	<i>Erigeron bellidifolius</i>
86. <i>Aster diversifolius</i>	<i>Aster undulatus</i>
87. " <i>linarifolius</i>	<i>Ionactis linariifolius</i>
88. " <i>ericoides</i>	Same
89. " <i>puniceus</i>	"
90. " <i>corymbosus</i>	<i>Aster divaricatus</i>
91. <i>Asclepias cordata</i>	<i>Asclepias rubra</i>
b. " <i>verticillata</i>	Same
92. <i>Aster concolor</i>	"
*93. <i>Solidago</i>	"
94. " <i>gigantea</i>	<i>Solidago serotina</i>
b. " <i>rugosa</i>	Same
*95. <i>Solidago</i>	"
b. " <i>bicolor</i>	"
*c. <i>Solidago</i>	Same
96. " <i>nemoralis</i>	"
97. <i>Viola primulaefolia</i>	<i>Viola primulifolia</i>
b. " <i>palmata</i>	Same
c. " <i>arvensis</i>	"
d. " <i>sagittalis</i>	<i>Viola sagittata</i>
e. " <i>cucullata</i>	Same
f. " <i>blanda?</i>	"
98. <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	"
b. var. <i>alba</i>	"

c. <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
d. " <i>puberula</i>	Same
*e. " Nb.	"
99. <i>Impatiens biflora</i>	"
b. <i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	"
100. <i>Conyza asteroides</i>	<i>Sericocarpus asteroides</i>
b. " <i>linifolia</i>	" <i>linifolius</i>
101. <i>Eupatorium perfoliat.</i>	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
102. <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Same
103. <i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>	"
104. " <i>hyssopifol.</i>	<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>
105. " <i>scandens</i>	<i>Mikania scandens</i>
106. <i>Inula mariana</i>	<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i>
*107. <i>Eupatorium album</i>	Same
*108. <i>Siegesbeckia</i> Nb	<i>Phaethusa</i>
109. <i>Elephantopus tom.</i>	<i>Elephantopus tomentosus</i>
110. <i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i>	<i>Mesadenia atriplicifolia</i>
111. <i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Same
112. <i>Doronicum nudicaule</i>	<i>Arnica acaulis</i>
113. <i>Hieracium venosum</i>	Same
b. " <i>marianum</i>	"
*114. <i>Senecio</i>	"
115. <i>Bidens frondosa</i>	"
b. <i>Sonchus floridanus</i>	<i>Lactuca floridana</i>
116. <i>Solidago lanceolata</i>	<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>
117. <i>Gnaphalium plantag.</i>	<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>
*118. <i>Helianthus angustifol.</i>	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>
119. <i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Same
120. <i>Helianthus mollis</i>	"
*121. " <i>gigas?</i>	<i>Helianthus giganteus</i>
122. <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>	Same
123. <i>Chrysogonum virg.</i>	<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>
124. <i>Liatris spicata</i>	<i>Laciniaria spicata</i>
125. <i>Bidens chrysanthemoides</i>	<i>Bidens laevis</i>
126. <i>Polymnia uvedalia</i>	Same
127. <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	"
*128. <i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>
129. <i>Arum triphyllum</i>	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
130. <i>Verbascum blattaria</i> var.	Same
131. <i>Silene pensilvanica</i>	<i>Silene caroliniana</i>
b. <i>Sedum ternatum</i>	Same
132. <i>Andromeda racemosa</i>	<i>Eubotrys racemosa</i>
133. <i>Cucubalus stellatus</i>	<i>Silene stellata</i>
134. <i>Cerastium arvense?</i>	Same
135. <i>Andromeda mariana</i>	<i>Neopieris mariana</i>
b. " <i>paniculata</i>	<i>Xolisma ligustrina</i>
c. <i>Epigaea repens</i>	Same
136. <i>Pyrola maculata</i>	<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>

b. <i>Gaultheria canadensis</i>	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>
137. <i>Lythrum verticillatum</i>	<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>
138. <i>Podalyria australis</i>	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
139. <i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Same
b. <i>Crotolaria sagittalis</i>	"
140. <i>Monotropa uniflora</i>	"
141. <i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	"
142. <i>Cassia nictitans</i>	<i>Chamaecrista nictitans</i>
143. <i>Ophrys cernua</i>	<i>Ibidium cernuum</i>
b. " <i>aestivalis</i>	" <i>vernale?</i>
c. <i>Orchis ciliaris</i>	<i>Blephariglottis ciliaris</i>
d. " <i>psycodes</i>	" <i>psycodes</i>
e. " <i>lacera</i>	" <i>lacera</i>
f. <i>Arethusa bulbosa</i>	Same
g. " <i>ophiogloss.</i>	<i>Pogonia ophioglossoides</i>
h. <i>Limodorum tuberosum</i>	Same
i. <i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>	"
k. <i>Malaxis liliifolia</i>	<i>Liparis liliifolia</i>
144. <i>Aristolochia serpentaria</i>	Same
145. <i>Lycopodium complanatum</i>	Same
b. <i>Asplenium ebeneum</i>	<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>
c. <i>Aspidium thelypteris</i>	<i>Dryopteris thelypteris</i>
d. <i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Same
e. <i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Same
f. <i>Aspidium asplenioides</i>	<i>Athyrium asplenioides</i> , recently reinstated by Butters as a segregate from <i>A. filix-foemina</i> Fide W. R. Maxon.
g. <i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Same
h. <i>Aspidium acrostichoides</i>	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>
i. <i>Botrypus virgin.</i>	<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>
146. <i>Passiflora lutea</i>	Same
b. <i>Sisyrinchium mucronatum</i>	"
147. <i>Verbena angustifolia</i>	"
b. <i>Circaea canadensis</i>	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
*c. <i>Salvia urticifolia</i>	Same
148. <i>Collinsonia canadensis</i>	"
b. <i>Dianthera pedunculosa</i>	<i>Dianthera americana</i>
149. <i>Salvia lyrata</i>	Same
150. <i>Hamamelis virginica</i>	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
*b. <i>Salsola tragus</i>	<i>Salsola kali</i>
151. <i>Houstonia verna</i>	Probably <i>Houstonia coerulea</i>
b. <i>Galium tinctorium</i>	Same
152. <i>Dentaria laciniata</i>	"
b. <i>Arabis bulbosa</i>	<i>Cardamine bulbosa</i>
153. <i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Same
154. <i>Argemone mexicana</i>	"
b. <i>Thalietrum polygamum</i>	"

155. <i>Sicyos angulata</i>	<i>Sicyos angulatus</i>
156. <i>Hedysarum ciliare</i>	<i>Meibomia obtusa</i>
157. " <i>reticulatum</i>	<i>Lespedeza virginica</i>
158. " <i>repens</i> as above	<i>Lespedeza repens</i>
159. " <i>cuspidatum</i>	<i>Meibromia bracteosa</i>
160. <i>Clitoria mariana</i>	Same
161. <i>Euphorbia hypericifolia</i>	<i>Chamaesyce preslii</i>
162. <i>Sparganium erectum</i>	<i>Sparganium</i> sp.
163. <i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Same
164. <i>Melanthium virg.</i>	<i>Melanthium virginicum</i>
165. <i>Tradescantia virg.</i>	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>
b. <i>Scirpus lacustris</i>	<i>Scirpus validus</i>
166. <i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Same
b. <i>Saururus cernuus</i>	"
167. <i>Veratrum luteum</i>	<i>Chamaelirium luteum</i>
b. <i>Convallaria biflora</i>	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>
168. <i>Uvularia perfoliata</i>	Same
169. <i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i>	"
b. <i>Gerardia villosa</i>	<i>Dasystema flava</i>
170. <i>Cunila mariana</i>	<i>Cunila organoides</i>
b. <i>Chelone glabra</i>	Same
171. <i>Pedicularis canad.</i>	<i>Pedicularis canadensis</i>
172. <i>Campanula amplexicaulis</i>	<i>Specularia perfoliata</i>

The plants have been lying in the package in this way, and I left them in the same order until I reached the first numbers which were new to me and appeared to me quite strange. Where I do not make any mark it refers to plants which we have here in gardens or otherwise growing wild.

Now I should like to have also Virginian plants of the *Flora Gronovii* which I am lacking and which I should be glad to receive: 1. *Salicornia*, 2. *Utricularia*, 3. *Cyperus odoratus*, 4. *Asperula*, 5. *Aphanes*, 6. *Sagina*, 7. *Lycopsis*, 8. *Triosteum angustifolium*, 9. *Swertia*, 10. *Tordylium*, 11. *Angelica lucida*, 12. *Burmannia*, 13. *Elatine hydropiper*, 14. *Vitex*, 15. *Dolichos regularis*, 16. *Helianthus atrorubens*, 17. *Verbesina virginica*, 18. *Centaurea*, 19. *Lobelia cliffortiana*, 20. *Zannichellia*, 21. *Tragia*, 22. *Atriplex*, 23. Any hitherto undescribed plant.

Kindly transmit my best thanks, in my name, to Mr. Billy¹ and Mr. Pickford, and whenever you want something from this section of the country, kindly let me know.

With my best regards and assurance of friendship, I remain
Your obedient servant and friend,
Heinrich Muhlenberg.

Allowing for duplications and for incomplete identification there are in the neighborhood of 224 species of plants named in this remarkable letter. Though some of the names can not be identified with those of species now ranging in our area, there is no reason to doubt that all of the plants were collected in or near the District of Columbia and probably within a shorter

¹This Mr. Billy no doubt is the Peter Billy who had sent plants from Virginia as stated in the preface of Muhlenberg's Catalog. No additional information on Mr. Pickford has yet been obtained.

radius than used by botanists in recent years. The general correctness of the determinations is shown by the fact that only 12 of the specifically identified plants of which the modern synonyms are known, in addition to one named only to the genus, are not included in the latest catalog of the Flora of the District. (Vol. 21, Contrib. Nat. Herb. 1919.)

The quality of collecting done by Dr. Ott and his associates was good, their plants by no means being of the most common sorts. Judged by recent experience the following plants (in the order of the list) must be considered either as local, uncommon, or rare: *Triantha racemosa*, *Myosotis arvensis*, *Phlox pilosa*, *Asclepias rubra*, *Dodecatheon meadia*, *Sophranathe pilosa*, *Anemone quinquefolia*, *Panax trifolium*, *Arnica acaulis*, *Helianthus angustifolius*, *Baccharis halimifolia*, *Gaultheria canadensis*, *Decodon verticillatus*, *Baptisia australis*, *Blephariglottis ciliaris*, *Arethusa bulbosa*, *Salsola kali*, *Argemone mexicana* and *Pedicularis canadensis*.

The presence in the collection of the *Triantha*, *Asclepias rubra*, *Sophranathe*, *Helianthus angustifolius*, *Blephariglottis ciliaris* and *Arethusa bulbosa*, shows beyond question, that these collectors had visited one or more of the Magnolia bogs, which harbor, as we now thoroughly realize, some of the rarest and most interesting plants of the region.

We are most fortunate in having records of plants that the earlier botanists collected and the attempt to rediscover them is a fascinating field of endeavor. The history of one of the bog species, namely, *Arethusa bulbosa* is very interesting and illuminating in this respect. Listed in the Florula Columbiensis of 1819 it later became one of the 'lost species' and was not rediscovered until 1918. Relating in part to this orchid, the writer, in discussing¹ the Magnolia Bogs as a source of species recorded in the older works, but subsequently lost to sight, noted that *Polygala lutea*, *P. cruciata*, *Rhexia mariana* and *Xyris caroliniana* had been recovered and added "May we not also hope to discover in these bogs other plants mentioned, and with little doubt seen, by the older writers, such as *Chamaedaphne calyculata*, *Trichostema lineare*, *Arethusa bulbosa*, and *Pogonia divaricata*?" The ink was scarcely dry on the page when the *Arethusa* was rediscovered in the Suitland Bog.

Ward in his admirable "Flora" of 1881² listed 146 species of plants from previous publications on the botany of the District of Columbia region which at that time seemed to have disappeared. However by 1919, 36 of those species had been re-collected and were included in the "Flora" of that year.

These confirmations of their discoveries do credit to the earlier botanists and encourage us to believe that one after another most of the plants recorded by them will again be collected in our region. Turning once more to the list in the Muhlenberg letter (which, be it recalled, has priority in date over any of the published catalogs), we find that of the species assigned with reasonable satisfaction to modern synonyms, 12 are not included in the most recent Flora. Of these, 7 have a range unquestionably covering the District of Columbia and it would seem certain should again be col-

¹Bull. Biol. Soc. Wash. No. 1, 1918, p. 86.

²Bul. 22, U. S. Nat. Mus.

lected here, namely: *Thaspium trifoliatum*, *Phlox glaberrima*, *Scutellaria integrifolia*, *Vaccinium virgatum*, *Hieracium marianum*, *Laciniaria spicata* and *Blephariglottis psycodes*. In addition to these a plant, No. 46, named only to the genus *Rhamnus*, brings sharply to mind the fact that while it seems within the bounds of possibility to collect here any of the 5 species of *Rhamnus* treated in the "Illustrated Flora," there are no preserved specimens of any of them.¹

The other five species of the Muhlenberg list have known ranges coming close enough to our territory to be ranked as possibilities for re-collection, especially in the light of several remarkable extensions of range that have recently been made (e. g. *Aletris aurea*, *Senecio crawfordii*). These possible rediscoveries are: *Ranunculus reptans*, *Berula erecta*, *Gelsemium semper-virens* (perhaps escaped from cultivation), *Viola palmata* and *Elephantopus tomentosus*.

Only one of all these plants (namely *Liatris spicata*) is in Ward's list of 146 'lost' species: that list as noted above, has been reduced by newly published records to 110. If we add the present 11, or better 12 (including the *Rhamnus*) we find there are still 122 previously recorded species which Washington botanists have the pleasure of searching for, the search to be crowned in many cases, it is hoped, by the great satisfaction of rediscovery.

¹In this connection the writer feels impelled to state that his notes record the collection of *Rhamnus* in fruit, along Piney Branch, D. C., Aug. 28, 1904. Unfortunately he was not pressing plants at that time, but specimens were brought into our laboratory for identification, and with fruit in hand, it hardly seems that an error in recognizing this genus could have been made.